

ABSTRACT

A disposable balloon catheter and corresponding catheter system are disclosed. In one embodiment, the catheter system comprises several components, such as: (a) an elongated catheter comprising a first outer diameter, a first proximal end and a first distal end; (b) an elongated balloon carrier having a second proximal end, a second distal end and a second outer diameter, the second proximal end of the carrier and the first distal end of the catheter being configured to permit the first distal end of the catheter to matingly engage the second proximal end of the carrier, the second outer diameter of the balloon carrier being similar to the first outer diameter of the catheter; and (c) a disposable balloon formed from an expandable and resilient biocompatible material, the balloon having a lumen disposed between a third proximal end and a third distal end thereof, the lumen having at least a third inside diameter. The second proximal end of the carrier and the first distal end of the catheter are preferably configured to permit the first distal end of the catheter to matingly engage the second proximal end of the carrier. In a preferred embodiment, the second outer diameter of the balloon carrier is similar to the first outer diameter of the catheter such that the second diameter of the carrier and the third diameter of the balloon permit the balloon first to be slideably mounted onto the balloon carrier and second to be slideably moved from the carrier onto the catheter when the second proximal end of the carrier is matingly or otherwise suitably engaged with the first distal end of the catheter.

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